



# **ABSTRACTS** **of the 2005** **Massachusetts** **Fish & Wildlife Laws**



**MassWildlife**

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Wayne MacCallum, *Director*

Publication of this Document approved by Philmore Anderson III, State Purchasing Agent

# From the Director

## NEW WILDLIFE ZONES

For many years Massachusetts' sportsmen have applied for antlerless deer permits using ecologically established deer management zones. The system has worked well and allows our biologists to fine-tune deer densities around the state in a way that is consistent with this agency's commitment to scientific wildlife management.

This year, in keeping with the policy of managing on an ecological basis, we have applied these zones to the management of other species including turkeys, squirrels, rabbits and bobcats. From a biological perspective, this makes far more sense than setting hunting zones by county lines, and from your perspective, it's a lot easier to define hunting zones by visible features such as roads and rivers, rather than by political boundaries. We continue to review management strategies for various species to ensure that wildlife populations are managed in accord with the most current information available.

## STAYING SAFE

Hunting and fishing are among the safest of outdoor activities and the safety record keeps getting better. Over the last 20 years hunting accidents have decreased by 32%, while the number of hunters has increased. Today, hunting is one of the safest outdoor activities you can enjoy.

Latest annual data from the International Hunter Education Association (IHEA) indicates an accident rate of .004% (798 accidents among 19.2 million hunters nationally). Statistics from the National Sporting Goods Association document 414,607 football injuries among 17.5 million participants, 24,885 injuries among nearly 11 million tennis players, and 46,089 accidents among 26.6 million golfers (see table).

Massachusetts has long been a leader in hunting safety, having developed and pioneered "hunter orange" in the late 1950s and having put it into practice in 1962. With over 100,000 firearms hunters and 33,000 bowhunters in Massachusetts in 2002<sup>2</sup> there were only three accidents<sup>3</sup>; no fatalities. In fact, Massachusetts has not had a hunting fatality in more than a decade, a tribute to the fact that Bay State sportsmen take safety very seriously. Hunters willingly comply with a multitude of rules and regulations designed to maintain wildlife populations and to provide a safe field experience. First time hunters are strongly encouraged to complete a comprehensive hunter education course in order to apply for a hunting license. This

Hunting	19,200,000	720	0.00004
Archery	4,700,000	4,042	0.00086
Baseball	14,900,000	173,945	0.01167
Basketball	28,100,000	653,661	0.02326
Bicycle Riding	39,000,000	546,236	0.01401
Bowling	40,300,000	22,933	0.00057
Boxing	1,700,000	11,506	0.00677
Fishing	44,400,000	79,369	0.00179
Football	17,500,000	414,607	0.02369
Golf	26,600,000	46,089	0.00173
Ice Hockey	2,200,000	16,854	0.00766
Martial Arts	5,100,000	23,555	0.00462
Mountain Climbing	3,400,000	8,726	0.00257
Racquetball	3,400,000	4,433	0.00130
Roller skating	26,900,000	118,647	0.00441
Skateboarding	9,600,000	104,449	0.01088
Snowmobiling	4,600,000	15,333	0.00333
Soccer	13,900,000	175,470	0.01262
Softball	13,200,000	127,171	0.00963
Swimming	54,800,000	174,812	0.00319
Tennis	10,900,000	24,885	0.00228
Volleyball	12,000,000	57,929	0.00483
Weight lifting	21,200,000	74,656	0.00352
Wrestling	3,500,000	53,791	0.01537

course, offered at no cost at locations all over the state, focuses on the proper use and safety of firearms and on other factors relating to planning and enjoying a safe and successful hunt.

There are certain basic safety precautions that can improve anyone's hunting (or fishing) experience. Physical preparation is important. Each year a few sportsmen experience cardiac problems ranging from mild angina to actual heart attacks. Sportsmen and women who lead sedentary lives should prepare themselves for days of unaccustomed exertion, hiking and carrying. Take vigorous walks or do other exercises for at least two months prior to hunting to get in shape.

If the first rule of hunting is to be in good physical condition, the second is to prepare your trip. Prepare a "safety net" by telling someone where you are going and when you expect to return. Prepare for the hunt by careful scouting. Although these suggestions are just plain common sense, problems occur when they are ignored.

Over the past few years there are usually one or two instances each year of a hunter falling out of a tree stand. A recent study conducted by the IHEA indicates that most such falls occur while the hunter is ascending to or descending from the stand. The simple solution, practiced by virtually all reasonable tree stand hunters, is always to use a safety harness. Although there are many types of harnesses, the use of a full body harness is highly recommended. Similar to a parachute harness, with straps around the waist, shoulders and legs — plus a belt that wraps around the tree — this is the safest system for reducing injuries.

Although most of the 3456 participants who completed Hunter Education courses in 2003 were first time hunters preparing for their first license, an increasing number of seasoned hunters are finding that Hunter Education courses offer a great refresher. Information about Hunter Education courses and course schedules is available on our website at [www.masswildlife.org](http://www.masswildlife.org) (follow the prompt to Education).

Boating is another matter. Surprisingly, in Massachusetts, there have been 14 fatalities among boaters on freshwater in the past five years. Eighty percent of our recreational boat fatalities were the result of capsizings or falls overboard. Over 50% of fatalities involved boats less than 16 feet in length. Of the 14 freshwater fatalities recorded in the past five years, 13 involved boaters who were not wearing life jackets — and 10 of them were non-swimmers<sup>4</sup>! Anyone fishing from a boat or from shore should be comfortable in and around the water. Boaters should wear a personal flotation device at all times whether they are offshore in surf or simply paddling a canoe around a pond. In some instances this is the law; in others it's just common sense. Here again the Commonwealth offers free courses. Information about boat safety courses is available from the Commonwealth's Boat and RV Safety Bureau at 617-727-8760 or at [www.mass.gov/dfwele/dle/dlecours.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dle/dlecours.htm).

Regardless what your outdoor pleasure, we urge you to use common sense and caution. You, the hunters and anglers of Massachusetts, are our valued customers and partners in the management of wildlife. As you head out for the coming year of hunting and fishing we wish you success and tight lines. We also urge you to stay safe and to take time to share your passion for hunting or fishing with a youngster. This is the future of our sports!

  
Wayne F. MacCallum, Director

1) Table Source:

Participants – National Sporting Goods Association 2001  
Injuries – Consumer Product Safety Commission: injuries treated in hospital emergency rooms  
Hunting Injuries – Int'l. Hunter Education Association

2) Source: Survey reported in 2001-2003 American Sports Data, Inc., Superstudy, State Report, Item #312

3) Two of these injuries were self inflicted caused by discharge of a handgun during the shotgun deer season, one while exiting a vehicle, the other while squatting in the woods. (N.B. MGL Ch. 131 S. 70 states that, "a person shall not possess or have under his control in any woods or fields a pistol or revolver during the open season when deer may be hunted lawfully with a shotgun.") The other was an individual who was accidentally shot by his hunting partner. There were no incidents of hunters falling from a tree stand.

4) Source: Massachusetts Boat and RV Safety Bureau



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*These Abstracts contain a summary of the laws and regulations in place as of September 1, 2004. Any changes in law or regulation enacted after September 1 are distributed through our regular press releases to the news media, town clerk offices, all license sales outlets and on our website. These are not the complete laws (MGL Ch.131 and 321 CMR) and are subject to change.*

To obtain a License to Carry or a Firearms Identification card, contact your local police department. For a nonresident License to Carry, a permit to own or possess firearms by aliens, or for more information on the gun laws, contact the Department of Public Safety, Firearms Record Bureau, 200 Arlington St. Suite 2200, Chelsea, MA 02150, tel. (617) 660-4780. License sales outlets may sell a hunting or sporting license only after seeing proof of a previous year's hunting license, a certificate of completion of a hunter education course, or a valid FID or License to Carry. Please see page 11 for Massachusetts Gun Laws.

A hunting, fishing or trapping license is not a permit to trespass on private land, posted or not. Remember, your privilege to enter on private land is a courtesy extended to you by the owner. Practice courtesy yourself if you want to continue hunting or fishing.

Hunting, fishing, sporting, and trapping licenses do not have to be displayed in a visible manner, but they must be shown on demand to any officer empowered to enforce these laws, and to landowners or lessees while on their property.

**MITT ROMNEY**, Governor  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
**ELLEN ROY HERZFELDER**, Secretary  
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs  
**DAVID M. PETERS**, Commissioner  
Department of Fish and Game  
**WAYNE F. MacCALLUM**, Director  
Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

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# FISHING

	ALL DATES INCLUSIVE	Daily Creel	Length <sup>1</sup>
<b>TROUT<sup>2</sup></b>			
lakes, ponds, major rivers <sup>3</sup>	Jan.1 - Dec. 31	3	—
all other rivers and brooks <sup>4</sup>	April 1 - Sept. 10	8	—
	Sept. 11 - March 31	3	—
South Pond, Brookfield <sup>5</sup>	Jan. 1 - Dec. 31	3	15"
<b>LAKE TROUT</b>			
Wachusett Reservoir <sup>6</sup>	"	3	—
Quabbin <sup>6,7</sup>	"	4	less than 20"
		1	greater than 23"
<b>SALMON (landlocked)</b>	"	2	15"
<b>SALMON (broodstock) <sup>8</sup></b>	"	2	15"
<b>AMERICAN SHAD</b>	"	6	—
<b>CHAIN PICKEREL</b>	"	5	15"
<b>BLACK BASS (Largemouth and Smallmouth, singly or combined):</b>	"	5	12"
<b>NORTHERN PIKE</b>	"	1	28"
<b>TIGER MUSKIE</b>	"	1	28"
<b>WALLEYE</b>	"	5	14"
<b>SMELT <sup>9</sup></b>			
	Jan. 1 - Feb. 28	—	—
	May 16 - Dec. 31	—	—
<b>ALL OTHER FRESHWATER SPECIES</b>	Jan. 1 - Dec. 31	—	—

**STRIPED BASS and HERRING:** For current regulations call the Division of Marine Fisheries at (617) 626-1520, or visit their website at [www.mass.gov/marinefisheries](http://www.mass.gov/marinefisheries).

**POSSESSION OF: Sturgeon (all species), American Brook Lamprey, Bridle Shiner, Burbot, Eastern Silvery Minnow, Lake Chub, Longnose Sucker, and Northern Redbelly Dace IS ILLEGAL! If caught RELEASE IMMEDIATELY.**

<sup>1</sup>Minimum length is measured as the straight line (not curved over the body) from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail. Forked tails may be squeezed together for the final measurement.

<sup>2</sup>Trout applies to Brook, Brown, Rainbow and Tiger (a cross between a female brown and a male brook trout). From April 1 to September 10, no more than eight trout as defined may be taken daily, and only three of those trout may be from lakes, ponds, or major rivers. From Sept. 11 to Mar. 31, no more than three trout as defined, may be taken daily.

<sup>3</sup>Major Rivers: Childs, Coonamessett, Deerfield, Farmington, Green (Colrain), Green (Great Barrington), Ipswich, Jones, Mashpee, Millers, Nissitissit, North (Colrain), North (West Branch), Parker, Quaboag, Quinapoxet, Quinebaug, Seven Mile, Santuit, Scorton Creek, Shawsheen, Squannacook, Stillwater (Sterling, Princeton), Swift (East Branch), Swift (Winsor Dam to Ware River, except as posted), Tully (East and West Branches) Ware, Ware (East Branch), Westfield (All Branches).

<sup>4</sup>Mainstem Housatonic River from the confluence of the East and West Branches to the MA/CT line, exclusive of catch and release areas, limit one trout, minimum length 20 inches.

<sup>5</sup>Special brown trout water: Total daily creel is 3 trout but only 1 may be a brown trout and it must be at least 15 inches.

<sup>6</sup>Opening and closing dates are set by the Department of Conservation and Recreation. For Quabbin Reservoir call 413-323-7221, for Wachusett / Sudbury Reservoirs call 978-365-3272. The use of lead fishing sinkers including, but not limited to, split shot, bullet weights, egg sinkers, slip sinkers, bell sinkers, pinch sinkers, rubber grip sinkers, bank sinkers, pyramid sinkers, or twist, strap or wraparound sinkers for the taking of fish in Quabbin and Wachusett Reservoirs is prohibited. Lead fishing sinkers DO NOT include other lead-fishing related items such as artificial lures, jigs, lead-core line, down-rigger weights, keel sinkers, torpedo casting and trolling sinkers, or weighted flies.

<sup>7</sup>Lake trout at Quabbin measuring 20"-23" (inclusive) are protected. NO HARVEST!

<sup>8</sup>The harvest of broodstock salmon (Atlantic salmon) is lawful in all inland waters of Massachusetts except in: 1) the Connecticut River and all its tributaries, and 2) the Merrimack River downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA and all its tributaries downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA. The possession of an Atlantic salmon (including broodstock salmon) while fishing in the Connecticut River and all its tributaries and in the Merrimack River downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA and all its tributaries downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA is prohibited.

<sup>9</sup>Smelt may be taken by hook and line only.

**Bait:** Permit required to take baitfish for purpose of sale. Frogs (except leopard frogs) 2-1/2" or less snout to vent may be used as bait; 10 daily, 10 in possession. May not be sold. Baitfish may be taken by licensed anglers at any time (except for purposes of sale) with a rectangular net not exceeding 36 square feet of net area or by a hoop or circular net not exceeding 6 feet in diameter or with a fish trap with openings not exceeding one inch. The following species may be taken for personal use as bait by licensed anglers:

American eel	Banded killifish	Bluntnose minnow
Creek chubsucker	Emerald shiner	Fallfish
Fathead minnow	Golden shiner	Herring*
Mummichog	Pumpkinseed	Rainbow smelt <sup>†</sup>
Spottail shiner	White sucker	Yellow perch

<sup>†</sup> Hook and line only. Possession or use of smelt as bait in inland waters other than during the smelt season is prohibited.

\* Herring may be used as bait in the Connecticut River, the Merrimack River and coastal rivers and streams. Herring MAY NOT be used as bait in lakes or ponds. Taking of herring regulated by Div. Marine Fisheries.

### Catch and Release Areas:

Artificial lures only. No bait in possession.

**Housatonic River** - From the Route 20 bridge in Lee downstream to Willow Mill Dam AND from Glendale Dam downstream to the R.R. bridge. No Fishing from June 15 - August 31 inclusive within 100 feet from the mouths of posted tributaries. Posted tributaries are: Beartown Brook, Goose Pond Brook, Hop Brook and Mohawk Brook.

**Red Brook** - From the outlet of White Island Pond to the inlet of Buttermilk Bay.

**Nissitissit River** - From the New Hampshire border to the Prescott St. Bridge. **FLY FISHING ONLY.**

**Swift River** - Winsor Dam to Rte. 9, catch & release **FLY FISHING ONLY** (year around); Rte. 9 to Cady Lane, catch & release July 1 - Dec. 31 (Artificials only).

**Deerfield River** - Fife Brook Dam to Hoosac Tunnel, and the section extending from Pelham Brook to the Mohawk Camp-ground.

**Westfield River, East Branch** - Immediately below the Chesterfield Gorge parking lot in Chesterfield to the gate north of the Corps of Engineers parking lot at Knightville in Huntington.

**Millers River** - Templeton/Athol railroad bridge to dam in Athol and from Wendell Rd. bridge in Orange to breached dam in Erving center.

**Quashnet River** - From the outlet of John's Pond to the sign 0.1 Mile below Route 28.

**Fish Consumption Advisories:** The MA Dept. of Public Health (MDPH), has issued a statewide advisory for pregnant women not to consume fish caught in fresh water due to elevated levels of mercury in fish. MDPH has also issued fish consumption advisories for the general public on selected bodies of water primarily due to PCB and mercury contamination. For more information or for a list of waters with fish consumption advisories, write or call the MDPH at 250 Washington Street, 7th Floor, Boston, MA 02108-4619; (617) 624-5757.

**Interstate Ponds:** Wallum Lake, Douglas: fishing permitted by persons duly licensed in Massachusetts or Rhode Island. Rhode Island regulations apply.

Lake Monomonac and Robbins Pond, Winchendon; Long Pond, Tyngsboro and Dracut; Bent Pond, Warwick; Tuxbury Pond, Amesbury: fishing permitted by persons duly licensed in Massachusetts or New Hampshire. New Hampshire regulations apply.

Colebrook Reservoir, Tolland; Perry Pond, Dudley; Muddy Pond, Southbridge; Breakneck Pond, Sturbridge; Congamond Lake, Southwick; Hamilton Reservoir, Holland: fishing permitted by persons duly licensed in Massachusetts or Connecticut. Connecticut regulations apply to Colebrook Reservoir, Breakneck Pond, Perry Pond and Muddy Pond. Massachusetts regulations apply to Congamond Lake and Hamilton Reservoir.

Sherman Reservoir, Rowe: MA regulations apply and MA license required in MA. Vermont regulations apply and VT license required in VT.

### FREE FISHING WEEKEND

June 4 & 5, 2005 — **No license needed**

**Spears, Bow and Arrows** - May be used to take suckers, carp and eels only. Fishing license required.

### PROHIBITED:

**Explosives**

**Poisons**

**Rubbish** in inland waters

**Releasing** fish or spawn into inland waters, except by permit.

**Jug**, toggle or trot line fishing.

**More than two hooks** for fishing or more than five hooks when ice fishing. A hook is defined as an angling device which is attached to a fishing line and which is designed to take one fish at a time, including, but not limited to, devices commonly called spinners, spoons, bait harnesses, lead head jigs or plugs, the purpose of which is to capture the fish by enticing it to take the device into its mouth.

**Sale** of freshwater fish without a permit.

**Snagging**

**Transporting** live fish (except bait) without a permit.

## Avoid Aquatic Hitch Hikers!

**INVASIVE PLANT AND ANIMAL SPECIES ARE A MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM**  
**ALWAYS WASH BOATS, MOTORS and TRAILERS, and ALWAYS EMPTY BAIT BUCKETS and LIVE WELLS**  
**BEFORE MOVING from ONE BODY of WATER to ANOTHER.**  
**DON'T BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTAMINATING NEW WATERS with INVASIVE SPECIES!**

### SPORTFISHING AWARDS

Awards for freshwater fish are offered in 22 categories. Each qualified entry receives a bronze pin. Largest fish in each category each year receives a "gold" pin and plaque. Fish must meet minimum weight requirements as listed below, and must be weighed on a certified scale at an official weighing station. Please check our website or send request with self-addressed stamped envelope to Field Headquarters for a list of weighing stations and more detailed regulations.

Largemouth Bass	7 lbs. 8 ozs.	Channel Catfish*	6 lbs. 0 ozs.
Smallmouth Bass	4 lbs. 8 ozs.	White Catfish*	4 lbs. 0 ozs.
Northern Pike	15 lbs. 0 ozs.	Bullhead*	1 lb. 12 ozs.
Tiger Muskie	10 lbs. 0 ozs.	Sunfish**	1 lb. 0 ozs.
Chain Pickerel	4 lbs. 8 ozs.	Walleye	5 lbs. 0 ozs.
Rainbow Trout	4 lbs. 0 ozs.	Crappie/Calico	2 lbs. 0 ozs.
Brown Trout	6 lbs. 0 ozs.	White Perch	1 lb. 8 ozs.
Brook Trout	2 lbs. 0 ozs.	Yellow Perch	1 lb. 8 ozs.
Lake Trout	7 lbs. 0 ozs.	Carp	20 lbs. 0 ozs.
Shad	5 lbs. 0 ozs.	Landlocked Salmon***	5 lbs. 0 ozs.
Brook Salmon	10 lbs. 0 ozs.	Tiger Trout	3 lbs. 0 ozs.

\*\* Sunfish category includes bluegills, pumpkinseeds and rock bass.

\*\*\* Landlocked Salmon are only recognized from Quabbin & Wachusett Reservoirs

# HUNTING

OPEN SEASON (All Dates Inclusive)  
NO HUNTING ON SUNDAY

Species	Open season	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit	Season Limit
<b>Birds:</b>				
Crow <sup>1</sup>	Jan. 1 - Apr. 9	-	-	-
	Jul. 1 - Apr. 10, 2006			
Pheasant <sup>2</sup>	Oct. 15 - Nov. 26	2	4	6
Quail <sup>3</sup>	Oct. 15 - Nov. 26	4	8	20
Ruffed Grouse <sup>4</sup>	Oct. 15 - Nov. 26	3	6	15
Turkey <sup>5</sup> Spring:	Season #1: Apr. 25 - May 21	} See Note # 5		
	Season #2: Apr. 25 - May 7			
Fall:	Oct. 31 - Nov. 5			
Waterfowl / migratory birds (including woodcock) see	migratory bird abstracts.			
<b>Mammals:</b>				
Black Bear <sup>6</sup>	Sep. 6 - Sep. 24	} See Note # 6		
	Nov. 21 - Nov. 26			
Bobcat <sup>7</sup>	Jan. 1 - Mar. 8	} See Note # 7		
	Dec. 20 - Mar. 8, 2006			
Cottontail Rabbit:				
Zones 1 - 12:	Jan. 1 - Feb. 28	5	10	-
	Oct. 15 - Feb. 28, 2006			
Zones 13 & 14:	Jan. 1 - Feb. 28	5	10	-
	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28, 2006			
Coyote <sup>8</sup>	Jan. 1 - Feb. 28	-	-	-
	Nov. 1 - Feb. 28, 2006			
Deer (archery) <sup>9</sup>	Oct. 17 - Nov. 26	} See note # 9		
Deer (shotgun) <sup>9</sup>				
Zones 1 - 11; 14:	Nov. 28 - Dec. 10			
Zones 12 & 13:	Nov. 28 - Dec. 3			
Deer (muzzleloader) <sup>9</sup>	Dec. 12 - Dec. 31			
Fox (red or gray)	Jan. 1 - Feb. 28	-	-	-
	Nov. 1 - Feb. 28, 2006			
Gray Squirrel <sup>10</sup>				
Zones 1 - 9:	Sep. 12 - Jan. 2, 2006	5	10	-
Zones 10 - 14:	Oct. 15 - Jan. 2, 2006	5	10	-
Jackrabbit <sup>11</sup>	Nov. 15 - Dec. 31	1	2	-
Opossum <sup>12</sup>	Jan. 1 - Jan. 31	-	-	-
	Oct. 1 - Jan. 31, 2006			
Raccoon <sup>12</sup>	Jan. 1 - Jan. 31	3	-	-
	Oct. 1 - Jan. 31, 2006			
Snowshoe Hare				
Zones 1 - 4:	Jan. 1 - Feb. 28	2	4	-
	Oct. 15 - Feb. 28, 2006			
Zones 5 - 12:	Jan. 1 - Feb. 5	2	4	-
	Oct. 15 - Feb. 4, 2006			
Zones 13 & 14:	Jan. 1 - Feb. 5	2	4	-
	Nov. 15 - Feb. 4, 2006			
<b>Reptiles and Amphibians:</b>				
Bullfrog &				
Green frog <sup>13</sup>	Jul. 16 - Sep. 30	12	24	-
Snapping Turtle <sup>13</sup>	Jan. 1 - Dec. 31	-	-	-

**ALL HUNTING SEASONS except waterfowl ARE CLOSED during shotgun deer season from Nov. 28 to Dec. 10 in Zones 1 - 11 & 14 and from Nov. 28 to Dec. 3 in Zones 12-13.**

The following species may be taken by licensed hunters with no daily or seasonal bag limit: English sparrow, starling, chipmunk, flying squirrel, red squirrel, weasel, porcupine, skunk, woodchuck.

**Closed season** throughout the year on all birds and mammals not mentioned herein or in Massachusetts migratory bird regulations.

**Hunter harassment** is against state law. Report violations to the Office of Law Enforcement 1-800-632-8075 or state or local police and prepare to provide a description of violators.

**Hunting hours** are from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset on each day of open season **except** for: **(A)** spring turkey, raccoon and opossum (see footnotes 5 & 12) and **(B)** WMA REG #10 (pg. 12) which states that no person shall hunt before sunrise or after sunset on any WMA where pheasant or quail are stocked during the pheasant or quail season (Oct.15 to Nov. 26) except for the hunting of raccoons and opossums between 9P.M. and 3A.M. **(C)** Hunting for rabbit, hare, fox and coyote which closes at midnight.

**LISTING OF FURBEARER CHECK STATIONS:** Check stations are located at all Wildlife District Headquarters, Sunderland State Fish Hatchery, Martha's Vineyard State Forest, Newbury WMA Headquarters, and Westboro Field Headquarters (Monday - Friday excluding holidays). **Call check station prior to bringing pelts for sealing.**

**1Crow** - May be hunted only on Friday, Saturday and Monday during the open season. Hunting hours close 1/2 hr. after sunset except as noted in WMA Reg #10 (See hunting hours above).

**2Pheasants** - Zone from the New Hampshire border south on I-95 to I-495 south to I-95, north on I-95 to I-93/128, east on I-93/128 to Route 3, south on Route 3 to Route 228, north on 228 to the Hull town line. Cocks and hens west of zone line and on all Wildlife Management Areas. Cocks only east of zone line including Hull and in Dukes and Nantucket counties. See WMA Reg. #10 under hunting hours above.

**3Quail** - Season limited to Zones 11 - 14. See WMA Reg #10 under hunting hours above.

**4Ruffed Grouse** - see WMA Reg. #10 under hunting hours above.

**5Turkey** - Permit required. **Official safety sticker must be adhered to firearm in such a manner as to be visible when hunter is sighting down the barrel.** Send self addressed stamped envelope to **MassWildlife's** Field Headquarters office (See p. 13) if new or replacement sticker is needed. **SPRING SEASON #1:** April 25 to May 21 (no split) in Zones 01 through 10 and 13. **SPRING SEASON #2:** April 25 to May 7 in Zones 11 and 12. **FALL SEASON:** In Zones 1 - 9 and 13 only. **Spring hunting hours:** 1/2 hour before sunrise to 12:00 noon. **Fall hunting hours:** 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hr. after sunset except as noted in WMA Reg #10 (See hunting hours above). **Bag limit:** (A) 2 bearded birds in spring season (1 per day) with NO fall bird allowed, **OR** (B) 1 bearded bird in spring season, and 1 bird of either sex in fall season. Hunting only with shotguns no larger than 10 gauge and restricted to shot sizes #4 - #6, or with bows 40 lbs. pull or greater. Electronic calls, dogs, bait, driving prohibited. Successful hunters must tag bird immediately and prior to moving it with tag attached to permit and bring bird to an official checking station within 48 hours.

**6Bear** - Permit required - **apply to Westboro Office** prior to season opening. Zone includes Berkshire, Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire, and Worcester Counties **ONLY** / Hunting only with rifle .23 caliber or larger, muzzleloader .44 - .775 caliber, bows with 40 lb. pull or greater, or revolvers .357 Magnum or .40 caliber or larger. Handguns permitted in September season only / **SHOTGUNS PROHIBITED.** Dogs prohibited for hunting and training (**See: Hunting Dogs**, page 10). Hunting hours close 1/2 hr. after sunset except as noted in WMA Reg #10 (See hunting hours above). Successful hunters must tag bear immediately and prior to moving it with tag attached to permit and bring bear to an official checking station within 48 hours. **Limit 1 bear per year.**

**7Bobcat** - Hunting hours close 1/2 hour after sunset. Hunting limited to Zones 1 - 8. All bobcats taken must be checked within 4 working days of date of harvest. The Director will close the season when the total harvest reaches 50 animals.

**8Coyote & Fox** - Hunting hours end at midnight. Pelts must be tagged within 4 working days of the end of the season. **Rifles** chambered to take larger than .22 caliber long rifle rimfire ammunition, pistols and revolvers larger than .38 caliber between the hours of 1/2 hour after sunset and 1/2 hour before sunrise **are prohibited.** Weapons other than shotguns and bows and arrows are prohibited on WMAs stocked with pheasant or quail during the pheasant and quail season. Possession or use of any rifle chambered larger than .22 long rifle in any place where birds or mammals may be found in Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Plymouth, and Nantucket counties is prohibited, November 1 - March 31.





**<sup>9</sup>Deer- Hunting hours** are 1/2 hour before sunrise and close 1/2 hr. after sunset except as noted in WMA Reg. #10 (See hunting hours pg.6).

**Antlered deer-** any deer with at least one antler 3 inches long measured on a straight line from the center of the anterior (front) base of the antler burr to the tip.

**Antlerless deer-** a permit is required to harvest antlerless deer during any season in all zones. Only one application per person. Applications must be postmarked no later than **July 16th**. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. Additional permits may be available in certain zones (see page 11 for details). Permits are accompanied by a zone specific tag and are valid in any season.

**Note:** Each 2005 antlerless deer permit will have a tag attached, valid for one antlerless deer, increasing the seasonal bag limit for anyone possessing an antlerless deer permit. If you hunt the archery, shotgun, or muzzleloader seasons, you must have an antlerless permit to take an antlerless deer. The number of deer a hunter may harvest statewide depends on the number of antlerless deer permits they purchase. A hunter may possess antlerless deer permits for more than one Zone. For example, if a hunter applies for a permit for Zone 5 through the drawing, and is selected for that permit, that hunter may purchase additional permits for a Zone that has permits available (such as Zone 10 or Zone 14). Permit availability depends on permit allocation and the number of applicants.

**Tagging requirements-** Immediately upon killing a deer and prior to moving it (during any deer season), the tag portion must be separated from the license or antlerless deer permit, filled out, and attached to the deer in a conspicuous manner. The deer must be taken to an official checking station by the person who killed it within 48 hours after killing it, for validation by a Division of Fisheries and Wildlife representative. At that time the paper tag will be collected and a metal tag affixed. This constitutes the official report of kill as required by law. Deer taken on Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard or Cuttyhunk must be tagged on the island where shot. Deer must not be possessed, transported, or under a person's control unless the deer, or a part of the deer, is open to view. However, after the deer has been tagged with an official metal seal, the deer may be concealed.

**After killing 2 deer** (except for persons with unused valid deer tags) a person shall not hunt for any bird or mammal other than deer, during the remainder of the shotgun deer season. This does not apply to hunting waterfowl on coastal waters.

**Daily bag:** the daily bag limit is determined by the number of valid tags a hunter possesses. Hunters possessing one deer may take an additional deer before presenting the first deer at an official check station. However, all deer must be taken to a check station within 48 hours of being killed.

**Yearly bag:** 2 antlered deer, and as many antlerless deer as the hunter has valid permits for, **PROVIDED:**

**(A)** Hunters may purchase additional antlerless deer permits for available zones subject to an overall quota in each zone.

**(See p. 11 for antlerless deer permit regulations.)**

**(B)** Hunters may take a maximum of two (2) deer in the **Quabbin** Reservation, both of which may be antlerless, provided the hunter obtains a second antlerless deer permit after checking their first

antlerless deer at a Quabbin check station. **Antlerless** deer taken in the Quabbin are not considered part of the statewide bag limit. **Antlered** deer taken in the Quabbin are part of the statewide bag limit.

**No person shall** kill an antlerless deer unless he or she possesses on his or her person a permit from the director to do so.

**During shotgun season** hunters may use shotguns not larger than 10 gauge, bows and arrows, or muzzleloaders, including modern muzzleloaders, muzzleloaders with telescopic sights, and sabot rounds in muzzleloaders, including hinge action muzzleloaders.

**During shotgun and muzzleloader seasons** all deer hunters must wear a minimum of 500 square inches of "hunter orange" on their head, chest, and back. This includes archers hunting during either season (see page 10).

**The possession of rifles, handguns, or dogs** in any woodland or field, on any highway, or use of same on any game, is **prohibited** during the shotgun deer season except that the use of dogs is lawful for hunting waterfowl on coastal waters.

**Driving deer** is lawful.

**Quabbin Controlled Hunt:** Contact Dept. of Conservation & Recreation (413-323-7221) in June for information. Must apply by August 15.

**Muzzleloader Season** - Limited to shoulder-fired muzzleloaders .44 to .775 caliber; barrel length 18" or more with only one barrel operative. In-line ignition systems permitted providing rifle loads from muzzle. Hinge action muzzleloaders are not legal. Single projectile only (no buckshot). Sabot rounds, 209 primers and scopes are legal. Powder limited to black powder or approved substitutes. Firearm is considered unloaded when cap or pan powder is removed. Stamp required. **An antlerless deer permit is required by muzzleloader hunters in order to take an antlerless deer.** Archers may hunt during the muzzleloader firearms season but must purchase a primitive firearms stamp and wear at least 500 square inches of hunter orange on head, back and chest.

**Paraplegic Season:** There is a special deer hunt for paraplegic sportsmen. Contact Field Headquarters for information (508)792-7270.

**10 Gray Squirrel** - Rifles and handguns permitted in Zones 1 - 9; prohibited in Zones 10 - 14. No person shall hunt before sunrise or after sunset on any WMA where pheasant or quail are stocked during the open season on pheasant or quail (Oct.15 to Nov. 26) except for the hunting of raccoons between 9PM and 3AM (WMA Reg #10, pg. 12). No person shall hunt by any means other than shotgun or bow and arrow during the pheasant and quail season on areas stocked with pheasant or quail except for hunting raccoons or opossums between 9PM and 3AM (WMA Reg. #9, pg.12).

**11 Jackrabbit** - Season limited to Nantucket County — Zone 14.

**12 Raccoon & Opossum** - Limit of 3 raccoon from sunset of one day to sunset of following day by one person; 6 by two or more persons hunting in same group. No limit on opossum. Night hunting on Wildlife Management Areas (except Delaney and Flint Pond WMAs) is permitted from sunset to sunrise excepting from Oct.15 to Nov. 26 on areas stocked with pheasant or quail, when raccoon and opossum may be hunted only from 9PM to 3AM.

**13 Bullfrog, Green frog, Snapping Turtle** - No license required. Minimum size for frogs 3" snout to vent.

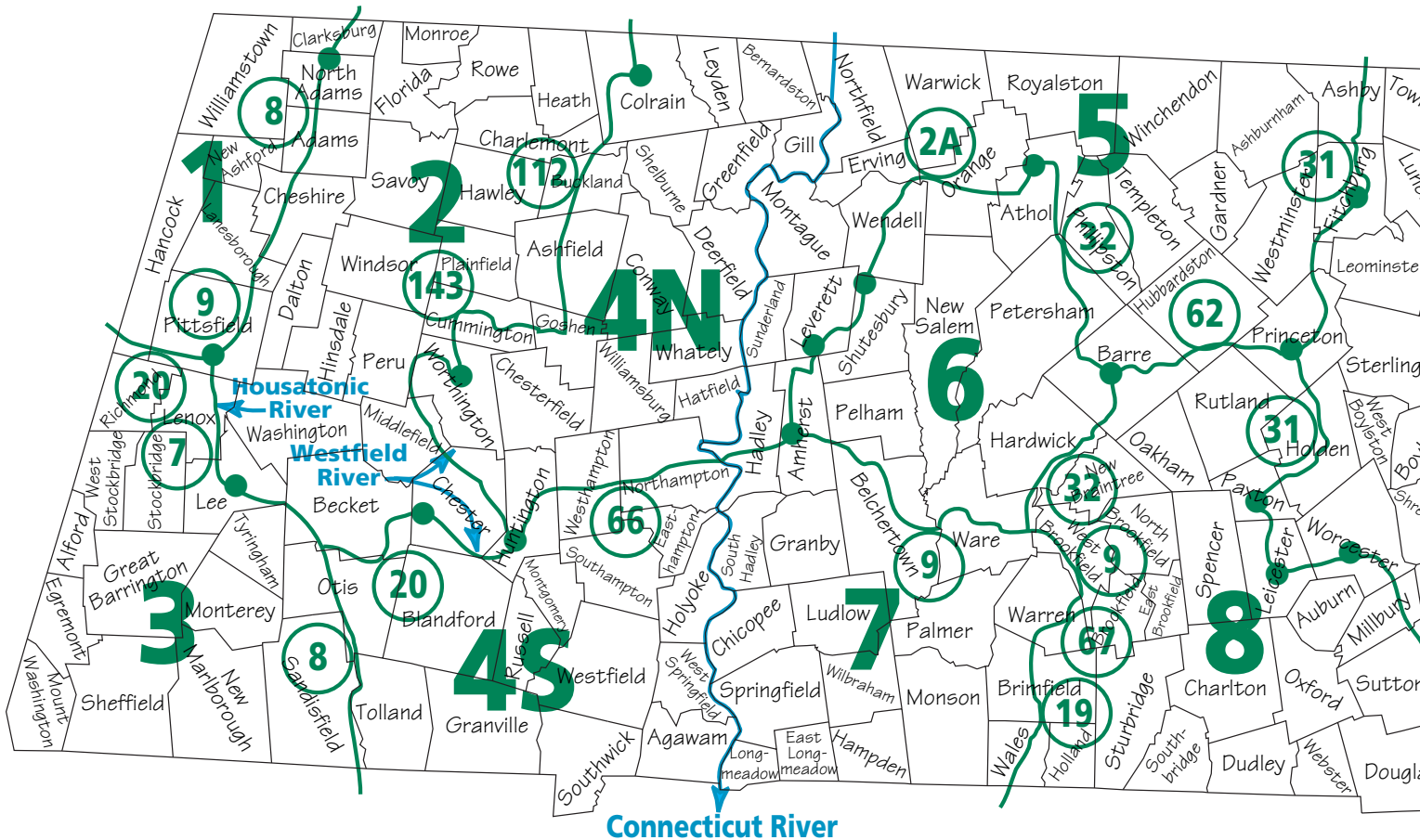
## HUNTING REGULATIONS

**Accidents** - All hunting injuries or deaths **MUST** be reported to state, local police, and/or environmental police.

**Archery** - Poisoned arrows, or explosive tips or bows drawn by mechanical means are prohibited. Mechanical releases permitted. Arrows used on deer, bear or turkey must have well-sharpened steel broadhead blades not less than 7/8 of an inch in width. Recurve or long bows for deer, bear or turkey hunting must have at least 40 lbs. pull at 28" or at peak draw weight for compound bows. No arrows may be released within 150 feet of, or across, any state or hard-surfaced highway and hunting is prohibited within 500 feet of any dwelling or building in use, unless authorized by owner or occupant thereof.

(Continued, Page 10)

# Wildlife Management



**Zone 01** - Northerly by the Vermont border; westerly by the New York border; southerly by a line running along Rte. 20 to the junction with Rte. 7 in Pittsfield; north on Rte. 7 to Rte. 9 and east on Rte. 9 to the junction of Rte. 8.; and easterly by a line running from the Vermont border south along Rte. 8 to Rte. 9 in Pittsfield.

**Zone 02** - Northerly by Vermont border; westerly by zones 01 and 03; southerly by the Mass. Turnpike (I-90) from the intersection with the Housatonic River in Lee, east to the intersection (dead end) with Bonny Rigg Hill Road in Becket; and easterly by a line running from the Vermont border south along Rte. 112 to Rte. 143 in Worthington, along Rte. 143 west to the intersection with the middle branch of the Westfield River, then south along the middle branch of the Westfield River to the intersection with the East branch of the Westfield River, south along the East branch of the Westfield River to Rte. 20 in Huntington, west along Rte. 20 to Bonny Rigg Hill Road in Becket, south on Bonny Rigg Hill Road to the intersection with the Mass. Turnpike.

**Zone 03** - Northerly by zones 01; westerly by the New York border; southerly by the New York and Connecticut borders; and easterly by a line running south along the Housatonic River from the junction with Rte. 9 in Pittsfield to the junction with Rte. 20 in Lee, east along Rte. 20 to the junction with Rte. 8 in West Becket, and south on Rte. 8 to the Connecticut border.

**Zone 04 North** - Northerly by the Vermont border; westerly by zone 02; southerly by a line running north from the intersection of Rte. 20 and the East branch of the Westfield River in Huntington along the East branch of the Westfield River to the intersection with Rte. 66, along Rte. 66 to the intersection with Rte. 9 in Northampton, to the intersection with the Connecticut River at the Northampton/Hadley town line; and easterly by the Connecticut River.

**Zone 04 South** - Northerly by zones 02 and 04N; westerly by zone 03; southerly by the Connecticut Border; and easterly by the Connecticut River.

**Zone 05** - Northerly by the New Hampshire border; westerly by the Connecticut River; southerly by a line running from the intersection of the Connecticut River and Rte. 9 at the Northampton/Hadley line east along Rte. 9 to Rte. 116 in Hadley, north along Rte. 116 to Rte. 63 in North Amherst, east along Rte. 63 and Pine Street to State Street, northeast along State Street and East Leverett Road to Cushman Road, along Cushman Road to Shutesbury Road in East Leverett, east on Shutesbury Road and Leverett Road to Wendell Road in Shutesbury Center, north

along Wendell Road to Locks Pond Road, north on Locks Pond Road to Lake View Road, northeast on Lake View Road to Locks Village Road, north along Locks Village Road to Depot Road in Wendell, north on Depot Road to Rte. 2A in Wendell Depot, east on Rte. 2A to Rte. 32 in Athol, south on Rte. 32 to Rte. 62 in Barre, and east on Rte. 62 to the intersection with Rte. 31 in Princeton.

**Zone 06** - Northerly by zone 05; westerly by zone 05; southerly by a line running from the intersection of Rte. 9 and Rt. 116 in Hadley, east along Rte. 9 to the intersection with Rte. 32 in Ware; and easterly by a line running from the intersection of Rte. 32 and Rte. 62 in Barre, south along Rte. 32 to the intersection with Rte. 9 in Ware.

**Zone 07** - Northerly by zones 05 and 06; southerly by the Connecticut border; easterly by a line running from the intersection of Rte. 9 and Rte. 32 in Ware, east along Rte. 9 to the intersection with Rte. 67, southwest along Rte. 67 to the intersection with Rte. 19 in Warren, and south along Rte. 19 to the Connecticut border.

**Zone 08** - Northerly by zone 05; southerly by the Connecticut and Rhode Island borders; easterly by the following: Rte. 31 in Princeton south to Rte. 56 in Paxton, Rte. 56 south to Rte. 9 in Leicester, Rte. 9 east to Cambridge Street in Worcester, Cambridge Street east to Rte. 146, Rte. 146 southeast to the Rhode Island border, westerly by zones 06 and 07.

**Zone 09** - Northerly by the New Hampshire border; southerly by the Rhode Island border; easterly by the following: Rte. 3 from New Hampshire southeast to Rte. I-495 south to Rte. 121 in Wrentham, 121 southwest to the Rhode Island border; westerly by zones 05 and 08.

**Zone 10** - Northerly by the New Hampshire border; southerly by the following: Rte. 1A northeast from Walpole to Rte. 128, Rte. 128 east to Rte. 228, Rte. 228 north to the Atlantic Ocean; easterly by the Atlantic Ocean; westerly by zone 09.

**Zone 11** - Northerly by zones 09 and 10; southerly by Buzzard's Bay and the Cape Cod Canal; easterly by the Atlantic Ocean; westerly by the Rhode Island border.

**Zone 12** - Northerly, southerly and easterly by the Atlantic Ocean; westerly by zone 11.

**Zone 13** - Dukes County.

**Zone 14** - Nantucket.



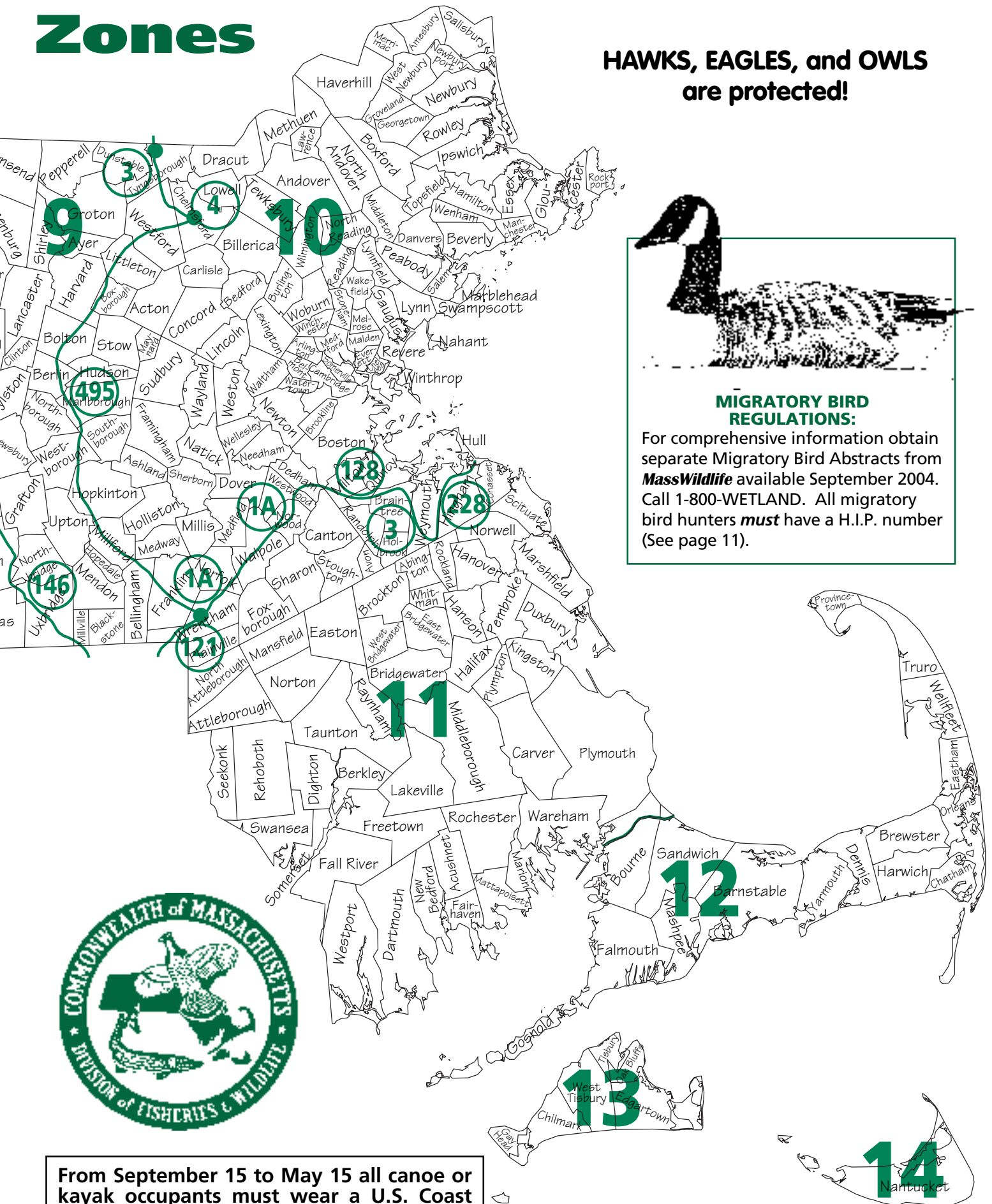
# Zones

**HAWKS, EAGLES, and OWLS  
are protected!**



## MIGRATORY BIRD REGULATIONS:

For comprehensive information obtain separate Migratory Bird Abstracts from **MassWildlife** available September 2004. Call 1-800-WETLAND. All migratory bird hunters **must** have a H.I.P. number (See page 11).



**From September 15 to May 15 all canoe or kayak occupants must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device.**

(Continued from Page 7)

**Archery Stamp Required. Antlerless deer permit required to take antlerless deer in any zone** during archery deer season (Oct. 17 - Nov. 26), in addition to a hunting or sporting license. Archers, while hunting deer, shall not possess firearms on their person or use dogs. (See daily and seasonal bag limit pg.7 and antlerless deer permit pg. 11.) Archers may hunt with a bow and arrow during the shotgun season and muzzleloader season but must comply with the shotgun or muzzleloader season regulations. **Crossbows may be used by certain permanently handicapped persons by permit only.** For regulations and an application, visit our website or contact **MassWildlife** at (508) 792-7270.

**Hunter Orange** - No person shall hunt during the pheasant or quail season on public shooting grounds or Wildlife Management Areas where pheasant or quail are stocked without wearing a "hunter orange" cap or hat except while night-hunting for raccoons or while hunting waterfowl from a blind or boat.

During the period when it is legal to hunt deer with a shotgun, all hunters, except waterfowl hunters hunting within a blind or from a boat, must wear, in a conspicuous manner on chest, back, and head, a minimum of 500 square inches of "hunter orange" clothing or material. During the muzzleloader season deer hunters only must comply with the hunter orange requirement.

**Hunting Dogs** - May be trained at any time (except during the shotgun season on deer) provided no firearms other than pistol or revolver and blank cartridges are used or possessed. No sporting or hunting license necessary. During the shotgun season on deer, dogs may be used for waterfowl hunting on coastal waters only. Hunting bear or bobcat with dogs, or training dogs on those species, is prohibited.

**Reptiles and Amphibians** - No open season on 25 species: hunting, taking, possessing alive prohibited. Regulations available from **MassWildlife**. Possession limit of 2 on all others except bullfrog, green frog, or snapping turtle. (See p. 6).

**Tree Stands** - Must have written permission of landowner to construct or use any tree stand held in place with nails, bolts, etc., or in place for more than 30 days.

## PROHIBITED

**Artificial Lights** for hunting any bird or mammal except raccoon and opossum.

**Baiting** wild birds, bear or deer.

**Careless** or negligent use of firearms.

**Choke Traps, Leghold Traps or Nets** for taking any bird or mammal.

**Decoys** for hunting deer.

**Discharge of any Firearm** or release of any arrow upon or across any state or hard-surfaced highway, or within 150 feet of any such highway, or possession of a loaded firearm, discharge of a firearm or hunting on the land of another within 500 feet of any dwelling or building in use, except as authorized by the owner or occupant thereof.

**Electronic Calls** for hunting migratory game birds, wild turkey, or deer.

**Ferretting**, possession of non-vaccinated / unneutered ferrets / fitches without permit. It is unlawful to hunt with a ferret.

**Hunting on Posted Land** without permission.

**Hunting on Sunday.**

**Importation**, transportation, liberation or possession of any live vertebrate protected under Chapter 131 of the General Laws except under permit from the Director.

**Intoxication and Drugs** - No person under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs shall hunt, target shoot, carry a firearm, bow and arrow or other weapon.

**Loaded Shotgun** or rifle in or on any motor vehicle, recreational vehicle (including snowmobiles), aircraft or motor boat, except as

stated in the Migratory Bird Hunting Abstracts.

**Machine Guns**, fully-automatic firearms, any crossbow, any tracer or incendiary ammunition for hunting. Crossbows allowed for certain handicapped persons only (see Archery).

**Motor Vehicles, Recreational Vehicles (including Snowmobiles), Aircraft** for hunting any bird or mammal.

**Possession** of any protected wildlife and/or wild plants, dead or alive, taken from the wild, except by permit.

**Power or Sailboats** for hunting birds except when beached or tied to blind or for retrieving injured birds.

**Removal** of any mammal from walls, holes in trees, ground or logs.

**Rifles** chambered to take larger than .22 caliber long rifle rimfire ammunition, pistols and revolvers larger than .38 caliber between the hours of 1/2 hour after sunset and 1/2 hour before sunrise. Weapons other than shotguns and bows and arrows are prohibited on WMAs stocked with pheasant or quail during the pheasant and quail season. Possession or use of any rifle chambered larger than .22 long rifle in any place where birds or mammals may be found in Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Plymouth, and Nantucket counties November 1 - March 31, except during daylight hours on target ranges and except for the use of rifled caplocks or flintlocks during muzzleloader deer season, or rifled barrel shotguns during the shotgun deer season.

**Sale** of all species of mammals and birds or parts thereof, except heads, hides and hooves of deer.

**Shotgun Ammunition** - Except during the prescribed open season when deer may be hunted lawfully with a shotgun, a person shall not have in his possession a shotgun shell loaded with a rifled slug, single ball, buckshot of any size, BB shot or air rifle shot in any place where birds or mammals may be found except on a skeet, trap or target range between sunrise and sunset, or **except** as specified in Migratory Bird Hunting Abstracts.

**Swivel or Pivot Guns** for hunting any bird.

**Taking Nests**, destroying or disturbing eggs or nests of birds protected by law.

**Target Shooting** on Sunday except on one's own property or on a recognized range.

**Traps** for taking birds except under **MassWildlife** permit. All traps except cage or box traps and common mouse or rat traps are unlawful for the taking of fur-bearing mammals.

**Vandalism** or damage to property or livestock.

## LICENSES & PERMITS

**Licenses are valid from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31** (except for limited term licenses).

**Licenses are issued by:** most city and town clerks, all **MassWildlife** offices and selected other outlets. Application may be made in person or by mail, or by agent of applicant. NOTE: City and town clerks MUST add an additional One Dollar (\$1.00) and other sales agents MAY add up to an additional One Dollar and Fifty Cent (\$1.50) service fee to the price of each license sold. There is NO SERVICE FEE charged for the purchase of licenses at offices of **MassWildlife**.

**Licenses, stamps, permits, and boat registration renewals are now available online at mass.gov/massoutdoors).** Anyone holding an electronic license may subsequently purchase stamps, permits or boat registration renewals over the Internet. Persons holding traditional licenses must purchase permits, stamps and licenses at license sales outlets in the traditional way.

**Licenses are required for** all persons 15 years of age and over for fishing (inland waters) and hunting (any bird or mammal). Trapping license 12 years and over. License must be shown on demand to any officer empowered to enforce these laws and to landowners, or lessees while on their property. No F.I.D. card needed if 12 to 14 years of age, or for bowhunting. Face of license must not be obscured. **NOTE:** No one may buy a hunting or sporting license unless he shows the issuing agent a

previous year's hunting or sporting license (from any state), a certificate of competency issued by **MassWildlife's** Hunter Education Program, a License to Carry, or a F.I.D. card.

**Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (H.I.P.)** provides the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service with migratory game bird harvest estimates for ducks, geese and other migratory game birds. Hunter cooperation is a critical part of gathering this information and managing game bird populations. Woodcock, rail, coot, snipe and waterfowl hunters **must** have a Harvest Information Permit (H.I.P.) number. This number can be obtained annually by calling **1-800-WETLAND**, and completing a seven question survey. There is no charge for the permit.

**Waterfowl Consumption Advisory:** The MA Department of Public Health has issued a waterfowl consumption advisory for the Housatonic River due to PCBs. For more information call the MDPH at (617) 624-5757.

**Bear Permit** - \$5.00 fee **MUST** accompany each completed application. Applications are available at **MassWildlife** district offices, FHQ, or in the Hunting Area of our website. **Current holders of electronic licenses may purchase permits on-line.** Submit application by August 1 to ensure timely processing.

**Wild Turkey Permit** - Application is on the duplicate slip of hunting / sporting license. Current holders of electronic licenses may purchase permits on-line. Apply by March 15 for spring season & Sept. 15 for fall season to ensure entry in the permit system. **\$5.00 fee MUST accompany application.** One fee covers both seasons.

**Antlerless Deer Permit is required to take antlerless deer during shotgun, archery and muzzleloader seasons in all zones.** (Application is on hunting / sporting license.) **DO NOT send fee with application.** Selection is by random drawing. Applications must be submitted by **July 16**. Successful applicants will be notified and assessed a \$5.00 fee. Additional permits, if available after drawing, will be issued at all District Offices and Westboro (in person only) until the overall quota for each zone is reached. Applicants must have original hunting license and \$5.00 fee for each permit requested. Permits for zone 13 and 14 may also be requested by mail from the Westboro office or at check stations on each island. **NOTE:** A fifteen dollar (\$15) fee will be charged for all returned checks.

**For a listing of Turkey, Bear and Deer check stations, visit our website or send a Self-addressed Stamped Envelope to Field Headquarters, Westboro.**

#### STAMPS:

**Archery Stamp** (\$5.10), required to hunt deer with a bow from Oct. 17 - Nov. 26. Stamp must be signed across the face in ink and attached to the rear of the license.

**Primitive Firearms Stamp** (\$5.10 each), required to hunt deer with a muzzleloader or with archery equipment Dec.12 - 31. Stamp must be signed across the face in ink and attached to the rear of the license.

**Mass. Waterfowl Stamp** - required in addition to Federal Stamp. Stamps shall be signed across the face in ink and in possession while hunting waterfowl. (Not needed for Woodcock, Snipe, or Rails)...\$5.00

**Residency Requirement** - To obtain a resident license applicant must reside in Mass. for 6 consecutive months immediately prior to purchase.

**Nonresidents** - A big-game license is required to hunt deer, bear and turkey. **Aliens** must obtain a permit from the Dept. of Public Safety for possession of firearms prior to obtaining a hunting license.

**Minors** 15 through 17 years of age, are required to be licensed. He/she must be accompanied by an adult or have a government approved Certificate of Completion from a Basic Hunter Education Course in addition to required stamps and permits. Minors between 12 and 14 inclusive may participate in hunting when accompanied by a duly licensed adult, provided that a single bag limit shall be observed and only one firearm/bow is possessed by the two. Only one minor per adult is permitted.

**Special Licenses or Permits** are necessary for possession or release of certain wildlife and for dealers, propagators, wildlife rehabilitators, taxidermists and/or fur buyers. Apply to the **MassWildlife** Boston office, Permit Section, 617-626-1575. Contact Field Headquarters in

Westboro, 508-792-7270, for permits for falconry, problem animal control or shooting preserves.

No license is required by any legal resident of the Commonwealth or member of his immediate family for hunting, fishing or trapping on land owned or leased by him which is used principally for agriculture, if he is or they are actually domiciled thereon.

**Penalties** - License revoked for one year in addition to other penalties and fines and restitutions of up to \$1,000 and/or 1 year in jail. Careless and negligent use of firearms - fines of up to \$500 and/or 6 months imprisonment and loss of license for 5 years.



## MASSACHUSETTS GUN LAW:

**Possession:** No License to Carry (LTC) or Firearms Identification (FID) Card is needed by bow hunters, nor by minors 12-14 years old hunting with a duly licensed adult, nor for the possession of primitive rifles or shotguns as defined in Chapter 140, Section 121, or their ammunition. However, an LTC or FID is required to purchase all ammunition, including black powder and Pyrodex. For hunting, resident citizens ages 15 and over must have an FID Card to possess a non-large capacity rifle or shotgun. An LTC is needed to possess large capacity rifles and shotguns and **all** handguns. Non-residents with a valid Massachusetts non-resident hunting license do not need an LTC or FID to possess or carry a rifle or shotgun, but must carry their firearms unloaded and in a case while traveling in their vehicles. Non-residents **may not** purchase guns or ammunition in Massachusetts.

**Caution:** Massachusetts public safety laws define primitive arms differently from the laws and regulations of **MassWildlife**.

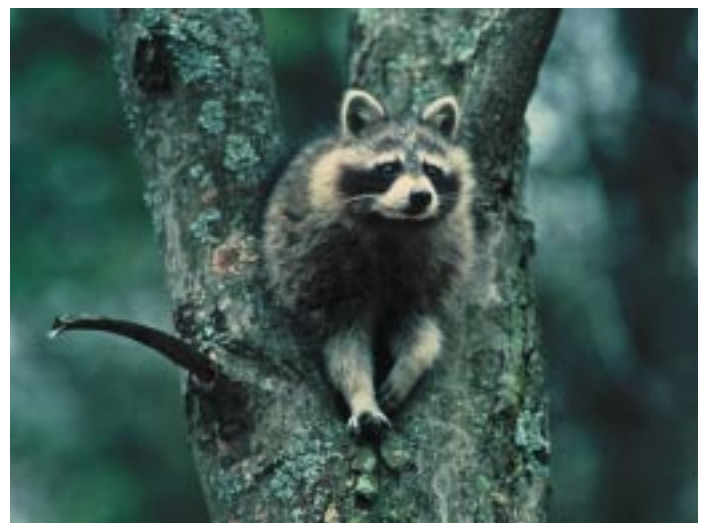
**Travel:** Rifles, shotguns, and muzzleloaders may not be carried in or on motor vehicles, nor may they be carried on public ways unless they are unloaded and in an enclosed case, or the person is lawfully engaged in hunting. A large capacity rifle or shotgun must be carried unloaded, and contained within a locked trunk or in a locked case or other secure container.

**Storage:** State law requires that whenever a gun is not under your direct control, it must be kept in a locked container or equipped with a tamper resistant mechanical lock. Muzzleloaders are exempt from this requirement.

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## TRAPPING:

For comprehensive trapping information obtain separate Trapping Abstract from **MassWildlife** available September 2005.





# WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA REGULATIONS

**MassWildlife** holds 116 Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and 13 wildlife sanctuaries. Maps are available from Field Headquarters, Westboro.

1. No person shall possess any alcoholic beverage except under permit or dump or discard any can, bottle or rubbish.
2. No person shall remove vegetation, soil or stones from any WMA except under permit.
3. No person shall use excessive speed in driving a vehicle.
4. No person, unless under permit, shall drive or possess any vehicle except on roads or trails maintained for public traffic.
5. No person shall deface or tamper with any sign, building or equipment.
6. No person shall build or maintain a fire without written permission from the Director of **MassWildlife** or his designee.
7. No person shall camp within any WMA without written permission from the Director or his designee.
8. No person shall engage in target practicing without written permission from the Director or his designee.
9. No person shall use any means other than shotgun or bow and arrow during the pheasant and quail season on areas stocked with pheasant or quail except for hunting raccoons between 9PM and 3AM.
10. No person shall hunt before sunrise or after sunset on any WMA where pheasant or quail are stocked during the open season on pheasant or quail, Oct. 15 to Nov. 26, except for the hunting of raccoons between 9PM and 3AM.
11. No person shall hunt during the pheasant or quail season on wildlife management areas where pheasant or quail are stocked without wearing a "hunter orange" cap or hat except while night hunting for raccoons or while hunting from a blind or boat.
12. No person, except under permit, shall dig or disturb any artifact or archaeological remains.
13. The Director may make special regulations to handle special situations peculiar to any WMA. Controlled hunts are in effect at certain times on Burns, Delaney and Ludlow WMAs. Contact District Supervisor for details.

Any landowner permitting use of his property for recreation without charging a fee is **not liable** for injuries to recreational users or their property except in cases of willful, wanton or reckless conduct by the owner.

(Chapter 21, Section 17C MGL)

## The Massachusetts Wildlife Viewing Guide & The Critters of Massachusetts

The **Massachusetts Viewing Guide** is 96 pages of wonderful trips to see wildlife and their habitats, from the summit of Mt. Greylock to the depths of Stellwagen Bank. \$8.95 at any **MassWildlife** office, or send \$8.95 plus \$2.00 for postage and handling to the Westboro Field Headquarters, One Rabbit Hill Rd. Westboro, Ma. 01581. **The Critters of Massachusetts** is for kids. Basic info on mammals, birds and reptiles. Available at any **MassWildlife** office or send \$5.00 plus \$1.50 p&h to above address.

## HAVE A QUESTION? VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[mass.gov/masswildlife](http://mass.gov/masswildlife)

or call the **MassWildlife** Information Directory:

**For questions regarding** conflicts with wildlife, stocking of fish or gamebirds, or other **regional** issues contact your nearest District Wildlife Supervisor. For the district locations and phone numbers please see page 13.

**For questions regarding** the following programs please call the listed numbers:

Art Contest, Stamps	(508) 792-7270
Aquatic Resource Education	(508) 792-7270
Becoming an Outdoorswoman	(508) 792-7270
Hunter Education	(617) 727-3623 or (508) 792-7434
Mass. Jr. Conservation Camp	(508) 792-7270
Project WILD	(508) 792-7270
Mass. Wildlife Magazine	(508) 792-7270
Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program	(508) 792-7270
Publications	(508) 792-7270
Fishing/Hunting Information	(508) 792-7270
Licenses	(617) 626-1590 or (508) 792-7270
Sportfishing Awards	(508) 792-7270
Tags 'N' Trout	(508) 792-7270
Trapping	(508) 792-7270
Waterfowl	(508) 792-7270
Wildlife Lands	(617) 626-1574

### PERMITS:

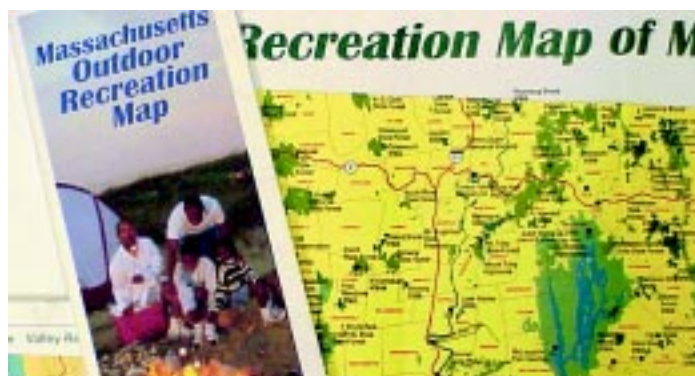
(Non-hunting): Permit Section	(617) 626-1575
Bear / Turkey / Antlerless Deer Permits	(508) 792-7270

## TAGGED ANIMALS

Some bear, deer, moose, coyote or other animals have ear tags or radio collars. Contact Westboro **MassWildlife** (508) 792-7270 immediately after taking or finding these animals in order to determine their source and status.

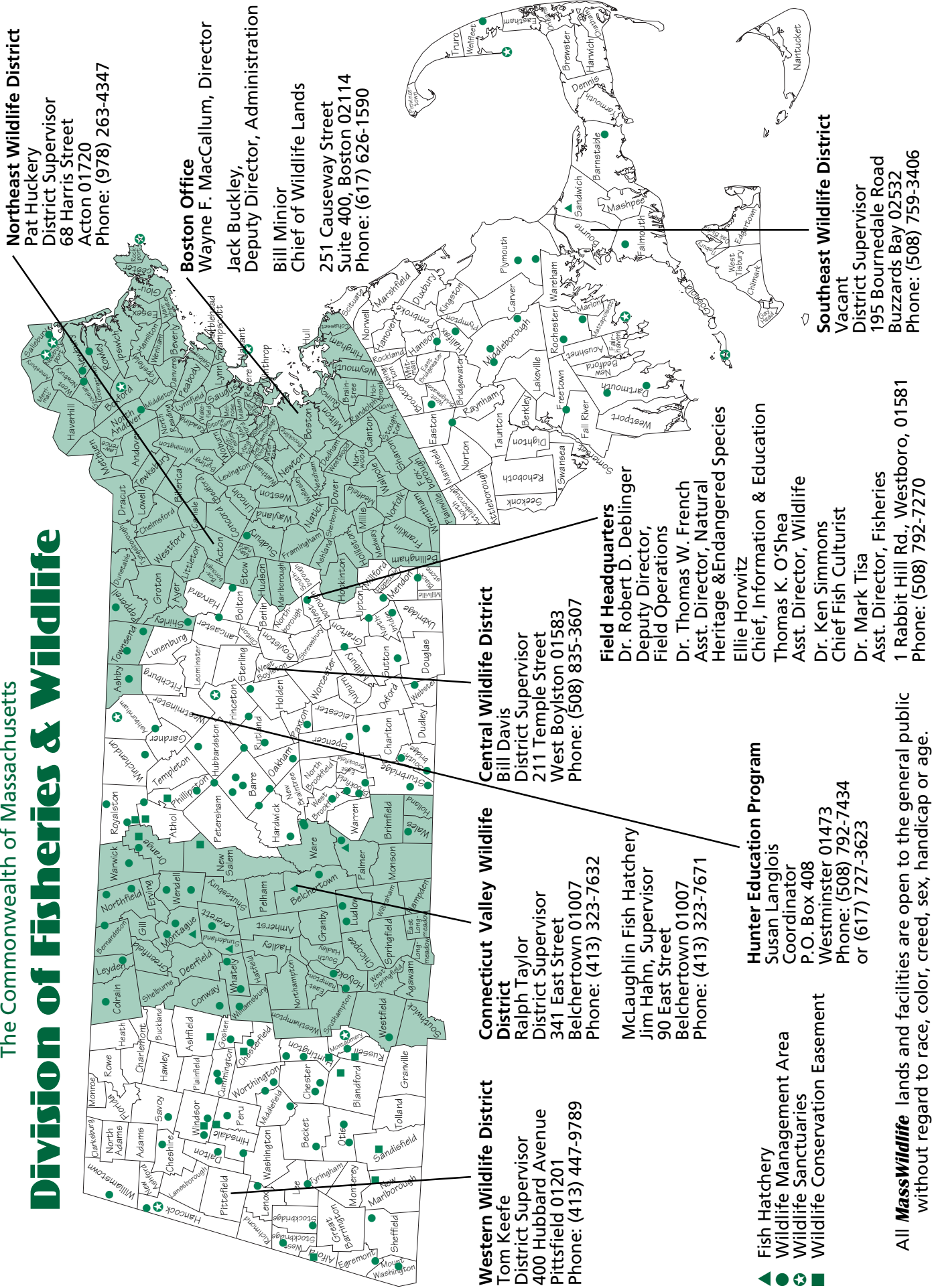
Do you want to know where to go fishing or boating? **Public Access to the Waters of Massachusetts** is now available. This 146 page map booklet will show and tell you information about current public sites. Send \$8.00, payable by check to:

Massachusetts Public Access Board  
Department of Fish and Game  
1440 Soldiers Field Road  
Brighton, MA 02135



An **Outdoor Recreation Map** jointly published by DCR, Dept. of Fish & Game's Public Access Board and **MassWildlife** features maps and grids with information on Wildlife Management Areas, State Forests and Parks, and Boat Access sites statewide. Copies can be obtained from a number of **DCR** and **MassWildlife** locations.

# Division of Fisheries & Wildlife



# Office of Law Enforcement

**To Report Violations Call: 1-800-632-8075**

## MAIN OFFICES

**Director**  
James Hanlon, Acting Director  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 101  
Boston, MA 02114

617-626-1650  
FAX: 617-626-1670

## INLAND ENFORCEMENT



**Inland Bureau Headquarters**  
Roger Arduini, *Major*  
183 Milk Street  
Westboro, MA 01581

508-792-7436  
508-366-6537  
FAX: 508-792-7437

**Northeastern Massachusetts**  
Ray Lennon, *Captain*  
210 Boston Street  
Topsfield, MA 01983

978-887-5962  
FAX: 978-887-2112

**Southeastern Massachusetts**  
Tom Sousa, *Captain*  
11 Hawks Avenue  
Hanson, MA 02341

781-293-4745  
FAX: 781-293-4746

**Western Massachusetts**  
Bruce Bennett, *Captain*  
316 Turner's Falls Road  
Montague, MA 01351

413-784-1815  
FAX: 413-784-1814

## COASTAL ENFORCEMENT

Kathleen Dolan, *Acting Major*  
349 Lincoln Street, Building 45  
Hingham, MA 02043

617-727-5629  
781-740-1163  
FAX: 617-727-8103

Ray Lenon, *Captain*  
2 State Fish Pier  
Gloucester, MA 01930

617-727-4816  
978-283-7764  
FAX: 617-727-4821

Kathleen Dolan, *Acting Major*  
P.O. Box 890  
Manomet, MA 02345

508-224-2264  
617-727-6847  
FAX: 617-727-6858

## MARINE THEFT/ BOATING SAFETY

George Agganis, *Captain*  
251 Causeway Street, Suite 101  
Boston, MA 02114

617-626-1666  
FAX: 617-626-1605

## BOATING & RECREATIONAL VEHICLE SAFETY

Lawrence Chenier, *Lieutenant*  
1019 Iyanough Road  
Hyannis, MA 02601

617-727-8760  
508-790-9360  
FAX: 617-727-2617

## ENVIRONMENTAL STRIKE FORCE

Gail Larson, *Lieutenant*  
1 Ashburton Place  
Boston, MA 02108

617-727-2200  
FAX: 617-727-5755

## TRANSPORT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

It is a violation of **FEDERAL LAW** to transport illegally taken fish or wildlife across state lines. For additional information contact the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement, Phone: (617) 889-6616.

**For Boat Registration Information**  
phone: (617) 626-1610.

## FEDERAL WILDLIFE LAW INFORMATION

Please note that fishing and hunting laws on federal parks, refuges and reservations such as that controlled by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, or the National Park Service may differ from state regulations. Contact the agency in question.



## Marine Fisheries

A Commonwealth of Massachusetts Agency

Have any questions regarding regulations pertaining to the harvesting of salt water fish species? Call the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries information hotline: (617) 626-1520.

**ROAD-KILLED DEER** may be kept by Massachusetts driver or passenger of vehicle killing deer if reported to Law Enforcement at **1-800-632-8075** immediately and then tagged at **MassWildlife** or at a Law Enforcement office within 24 hours and free permit issued.



## Education Programs

**MassWildlife** offers a wide range of educational and skills programs. With suitable lead time, these programs can be adapted to the needs of virtually any group.



**Angler Education** — The Angler Education Program (AEP) teaches people of all ages, especially children, about the relationships between fish and their environment. The program teaches freshwater fishing skills, basic safety techniques, outdoor ethics and aquatic ecology through workshop sessions and/or through family fishing festivals.

**Hunter Education Program** — provides courses in the safe handling of firearms, and other outdoor activities related to hunting and firearm use. Designed for novices, courses in Basic Hunter Education, Bowhunter Education, Trapper Education, Muzzleloader Education and Map & Compass are offered statewide throughout the year. Certificates in certain courses satisfy hunting license requirements for Massachusetts as well as other states and Canadian provinces. Call (508) 792-7434 for more information.



**Project WILD** — Emphasizes wildlife, people and the environment which they share. Six hour workshops are available for people who work with children in grades K - 12. Participants receive either the Project WILD or Aquatic WILD activity guide. PDPs are available.

**Vernal Pools for Educators Workshops** — A series of free one-day workshops for environmental and classroom educators of Massachusetts. Explore the nature of vernal pools and how to bring them into the classroom. Free materials and resources are provided to participants.

In addition to these programs the Information and Education Section offers **special programs on a wide variety of topics** and participates actively in the operation of:

**Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program** — Information highlighting rare and endangered species, their habitats and protection strategies is available in the form of fact sheets, newsletters, a biodiversity report, a guide to invasive plants, wetlands atlas, vernal pool certification packet, posters and coloring book.



**Junior Duck Stamp Program** — Students participate in a state-wide duck stamp contest that combines art with wetlands and waterfowl information. Co-sponsored by the Massachusetts Wildlife Federation and Ducks Unlimited.

**Becoming an Outdoors-Woman** — These special weekend and occasional one-day programs offer women of all ages an opportunity to sample a variety of outdoor activities from archery to wildlife photography and from kayaking to fly fishing. Sessions are designed for novices.

**Massachusetts Junior Conservation Camp** — A two week summer program for campers 13 to 17 years old. The program stresses outdoor sports including fishing, hunting, boating and instruction in fisheries, wildlife management and forestry, all in a fun setting. Co-sponsored by the Massachusetts Sportsmen's Junior Conservation Camp, Inc., the Dept. of Conservation and Recreation, the Office of Law Enforcement, and GOAL.

**Youth Hunts** — Youth Upland Game Bird Hunt and Youth Upland Waterfowl Hunt are both held in late September. Each consists of a seminar and a field experience. For more information call the Northeast Wildlife District (978) 263-4347.

For information on any of these programs call  
**MassWildlife (508) 792-7270.**

## STEP OUTSIDE™

Share your enjoyment of outdoor sports. Ask a friend, neighbor, child, spouse, or fellow worker to **STEP OUTSIDE™** and share the outdoor sporting experience. You'll be glad you did and so will they. Call (203) 426-1320.

## 2005 FEES

F1	Resident Fishing	\$27.50
F2	Resident Minor Fishing (Age 15-17)	11.50
F3	Resident Fishing (Age 65-69)	16.25
F4	Resident Fishing (Age 70 or over or paraplegic, blind, mentally retarded)	FREE
F6	Non-resident Fishing	37.50
F7	Non-resident Fishing (3 day)	23.50
F8	Resident Fishing (3 day)	12.50
F9	Non-res. Fishing (Age 15-17)	11.50
F10	Quabbin One Day Fishing (Quabbin only) (no land stamp required; sold by DCR & C. V. District)	5.00
H1	Resident Citizen Hunting	27.50
H2	Resident Hunting (Age 65-69)	16.25
H3	Resident Hunting, Paraplegic	FREE
H4	Resident Alien Hunting	27.50
H5	Non-resident Hunting, Big Game	99.50
H6	Non-resident Hunting, Small Game	65.50
H7	Non-resident Commercial Shooting Preserve (1 day)	10.00
H8	Resident Minor Hunting (Age 15-17)	11.50
H9	Resident Commercial Shooting Preserve (1 day)	10.00
S1	Resident Sporting	45.00
S2	Resident Sporting (Age 65-69)	25.00
S3	Resident Sporting (Age 70 or over)	FREE
T1	Resident Trapping	35.50
T2	Resident Minor Trapping (Age 12-17)	11.50
T3	Resident Trapping (Age 65-69)	20.25
DF	Duplicate Fishing	2.50
DH	Duplicate Hunting	2.50
DS	Duplicate Sporting	2.50
DT	Duplicate Trapping	2.50
M1	Archery Stamp	5.10
M2	Waterfowl Stamp	5.00
M3	Primitive Firearms Stamp	5.10
W1	Wildlands Stamp, Resident	5.00
W2	Wildlands Stamp, Non-resident	5.00

**NOTE:** Fee for FIRST resident license, ALL non-resident licenses **include** a \$5.00 fee for the Wildlands Conservation Stamp. Fee for SECOND RESIDENT LICENSE in calendar year, DOES NOT include a \$5.00 fee for the Wildlands Conservation Stamp. City and town clerks MUST add an additional One Dollar (\$1.00) and other sales agents MAY add up to an additional One Dollar and Fifty Cent (\$1.50) service fee to the price of each license sold. There is NO SERVICE FEE charged for the purchase of licenses at offices of **MassWildlife**.

## Help save rare plants and animals



## on your state tax return!

Phyllira Tiger Moth (Endangered)

Massachusetts has 186 species of rare animals and 264 species of rare plants that the Division's Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program considers high priority for census, research, and recovery. Protection of these species and their habitats will contribute significantly to the preservation of biological diversity in the Commonwealth. Massachusetts citizens can save rare plants and animals by contributing on their state income tax forms, or by donating directly to:



## NATURAL HERITAGE & ENDANGERED SPECIES FUND

Please make checks payable to the **Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Fund**, and mail to: Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, 1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581. Thank you!

## MASSACHUSETTS WILDLIFE

### Four Issues Per Year

- TRADITION** - Fifty years at the forefront of superb wildlife reporting.
- BEAUTY** - Exceptional nature photography.
- VARIETY** - From Cape Cod beaches to the Berkshire Hills.
- ACTION** - Tips on hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, Follow biologists in the field.
- VALUE** - One year subscription: only \$6!

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**Yes! I'm enclosing \$6. Please start my subscription with the next issue.**

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



Send check or money order to:

MASSACHUSETTS WILDLIFE  
Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, Dept. AB2005  
Field Headquarters, Westboro, Massachusetts 01581